

Compliment of H R Johnson

MINUTES
OF THE
SIXTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL SESSION
OF THE
TUSCALOOSA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH
HOPEWELL CHURCH,
TUSCALOOSA COUNTY, ALA.,
OCTOBER 4th, 5th, and 6th, 1899.

OFFICERS:

J. H. CURRY, MODERATOR.

J. T. BEALLE, CLERK.

The next Session to be held with Siloam Church, at
Scottsville, Bibb Co., beginning Wednesday, after
first Sunday in October, 1900.

TUSCALOOSA, ALA.

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Warren, printer, Tuscaloosa, Office over Prince & Son.

1899.

MINUTES

OF THE TUSCALOOSA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

SESSION OF 1899.

HOPEWELL, OCTOBER 4th, 1899.

The Tuscaloosa Baptist Association met here to-day, in its Sixty-Seventh Annual Session. Rev. L. O. Dawson preached the Introductory Sermon at 11 o'clock. Text, John 14:21—"He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him." After preaching, dinner was served on the ground. At 2 o'clock, p. m., met for business.

Roll of Churches called, letters from the Churches presented, delegates came forward and voted for Moderator. Rev. J. H. Curry was re-elected by unanimous vote.

LIST OF CHURCHES AND NAMES OF DELEGATES :

Bethany :—Rev. S. E. Hodge, L. R. Finnell, W. I. Watkins, G. W. Sanders.

Bethel :—N. N. Browne.

Bibville—

Big Creek :—N. T. Patton, E. Coleman, H. C. Roycroft.

Big Hurricane :—William House.

Big Sandy :—B. M. Phifer, Clarence Hinton.

Blocton 1st :—J. J. Little, Rev. J. D. Mills, William R. Bell, George W. Smithson, Rev. J. W. Dossett.

Blocton 2nd :—A. J. Johnson, P. N. Sumner.

Brookwood—

Carroll's Creek :—Rev. Isaac Martin, D. L. Turner, J. H. White.

Cottondale :—J. H. Ryland, John Smelley.

Duncanville :—A. G. Miller.

Flatwoods :—John Patrich, J. H. Anders, Jr.

Gilgal :—B. D. Skelton, W. W. Snyder, A. W. Thompson, J. Thompson.

Hopewell :—J. A. Garner, D. A. Brown, Q. W. Johnson, G. W. Rowe.

Little Sandy :—M. B. Scott, W. I. Ryan.

Mount Moriah :—Erasmus Hayes, W. F. Goodson.

Mount Olive :—J. R. Hysan, M. M. Watkins.

Mount Paran :—W. W. Watson, Wright Snyder.

Mount Pleasant :—W. R. Copeland, Newberne Matthews.

Mount Zion :—Wiley Hutchins, John Thrower, R. E. St. John.

Northport :—J. H. Curry, John T. Bealle, C. E. Rice, B. C. Sumner, J. W. Brown, F. M. Hamner, Harvey Baker.

Piney Grove :—Charles B. Greene, M. M. Sexton.

Pleasant Hill—

Ruhamah—

Sardis :—J. T. Hayes, D. J. Ward.

Shultz Creek :—W. H. Logan.

Siloam :—W. B. Perry.

Tuscaloosa :--Rev. L. O. Dawson, F. M. Purifoy, B. H. Williams,
J. H. Foster, L. L. Herring, J. W. Norris, E. J. Daffin, J. W.
Read, P. D. Brown, J. S. Yerby, W. O. Perry, F. S. Moody,
Walter Daffin, Marion Weatherford, J. P. Park, Moses Walters.
Vance :--Rev. Joseph Tibb, J. S. Quarles, Charles Williams.
Windham Springs :--A. B. Clements.
Woodstock--

Received Correspondence as follows ;

Rev. G. S. Anderson--Institute Board.
Rev. John G. Lowry--Birmingham Association.
Rev. John W. Stewart--Orphan's Home.
Rev. J. A. Howard--Alabama Baptist.
Rev. H. R. Schramm--Eufaula Association.
Rev. A. W. Logan--

Returned Correspondence as follows :

Any brother in good standing in any Church of this Association, is hereby authorized to present Minutes, and represent us in any Sister Association.

Door opened for reception of New Members. Duncanville Church petitioned for membership, and was received into the fellowship of the Association.

Motion made and carried, to dispense with reading of the Letters from the Churches.

The Moderator appointed the following Committees, to report at this Session :

On Printing :--Pastor and Deacons of Hopewell Church, with F. M. Hamner and Luther Finneil.
On Documents :--Rev. R. S. Cox, W. R. Copeland, N. N. Brown.
On Nominations :--B. C. Sumner, J. J. Little, E. Coleman.
On Finance :--F. M. Purifoy, B. M. Phifer, B. H. Williams.

Adjourned to 9 o'clock, a. m., to-morrow.

SECOND DAY.--(Thursday Morning.)

Met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional Exercises by H. R. Schramm.

Report on Temperance read by R. S. Cox. Discussed by J. W. Dossett, John W. Stewart, R. S. Cox, H. R. Schramm. Prayer by J. W. Stewart. Adopted as follows :--

At the last Convention of "The Tuscaloosa Baptist Association," it was unanimously resolved, by the delegates of the several Churches there represented, "that the subject of temperance in general, and of the Saloon in particular, be made a matter of earnest prayer."

We felt THEN as we feel NOW, that that resolution, though dictated by Bro. Dawson, was the mind of the Holy Spirit. It was a move in the right direction. True, good resolutions are not much in themselves; their value can only be determined by what is done with them. But good resolutions may have much to do with inspiring and guiding action. We think good resolutions are always in place; for a man is pretty far gone, who, in the midst of fiery trials and

sore bereavements, does not, at some time, stop his mad wish, take his bearings, and resolve, anew, to be a better citizen, a better father, a better husband, a better christian.

It is better to make good resolutions, even if they are not faithfully carried out, than to lack a purpose of right doing. It is good to go so far as to resolve to do well. Of course, it is far better to do as well as we resolve.

Now, what can this Committee hope to say or do, more than has already been said and done by predecessors, to suppress this leprous Oligarchy, that has our municipalities by the throat, holding in the hollow of its bloody hand, hundreds of thousands of votes, hurling them this way or that, at its own arbitrary will or dictation. It is not only assailing our legislature and corrupting our legislation; but seeks to, and is blighting many of our homes, our churches, our civilization, and seeks to overturn our social fabric. Oh God! how long shall christian people continue to support, by their silence and by their suffrage, politicians, demagogues, men--white men--who are willing to stultify their manhood, by conniving, aiding and abetting the most cruel form of slavery, known to christian America?

Why, this whole Saloon tragedy, (for such it is) as it flaunts its tragic scenes before its guilty patronage, looks to us like a huge travesty on free government, and a terrible and ominous commentary on the boasted civilization, and christianity of this Century. And, then, just think of the almost limitless power of the various Churches, compared with that of the Saloon; and you will see that christian people could easily win the victory against any kind or combination of evil, if only they could unite and be determined.

The subject of the open Saloon, continues to surge in and out of the public mind like the heavy tides of old Ocean, as they run into deep fissures, and then flow back again, each succeeding year, with increased noise and menacing power. The Saloon forces are organized, alert, aggressive, roused into unusual vigilance and hatred, by the marvelous events of the passing year, in our State.

Our soul is often tossed on a wave of mountain proportions, which seems to be growing higher and still higher, crested with foam and wrath, as the years of endurance move steadily on.

The sight of a vast army of men turning into beasts, in these gilded dens of infamy; and as we watch the on-moving column, and listen to the steady TRAMP, TRAMP, TRAMP of these inebriated slaves, and remember that they are our brethren, we turn our tear-bashed eyes from the scalding sight, with accute loathing and a magnified hatred of the whole iniquitous business, that language can never express. We have all seen the young men, and the middle-aged, and old as well, from what we call the best homes in our land, reel in and stagger out of these death-dealing bastions, with oaths and blasphemies on their lips, and degrading passion in their looks; and the cry of my soul has gone up to Almighty God, that the Churches and the homes might combine their forces, to drive this withering, scalding, consuming fury out of our long suffering municipal life, so that we might never feel its blighting curse again; for its greatest delight is in:

"Sowing the seed of a lingering pain,
Sowing the seed of a maddened brain,
Sowing the seed of a tarnished name,
Sowing the seed of eternal shame."
Oh, what will the harvest be?

Never were the heavens more vibrant with the call to duty, than at this very hour.

The atmosphere is instinct with opportunity.

Before this Association meets again, we will have spoken out, at the ballot-box, whether this shameful BLOT and lingering CURSE shall destroy the homes of this land, or whether we shall destroy IT. One or the other is inevitable. Now, which? It rests with the professing christians of this Country. There is even now, that ominous hush, which is said to precede the shock of arms. God seems to be hesitating--waiting to speak. He will soon give his marching orders for the 20th Century; and now, in his name, we solemnly declare the consistency and necessity, on the part of every disciple of Christ, in every Church of every name and order, both white and black, in this God-favored land of ours, of placing himself prayerfully, and decidedly on record, and at once aligning himself, aggressively, against the open Saloon, until it shall have been dethroned--destroyed--until we shall have rid ourselves of this blighting stench and foul viper, which has so many years, trailed its slimy folds through our homes, and schools, our churches, and even through our legislative halls, by securing secret pledges of support from those of whom we had a right to expect better things.

To consummate this end, we again

"Recommend, That the subject of Temperance, in general, and of the Saloon in particular, be made a matter of earnest prayer," 'till we meet again.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. S. COX.

Jno. W. Stewart, Financial Secretary of the Orphan's Home, spoke feelingly and effectively of that institution. Collection for Orphans taken.

Missionary Sermon preached by J. H. Curry. Text, 1 Cor. 3:9—"For we are laborers together with God." Collection.

Adjourned to 2:30 p. m.

THURSDAY AFTERNOON.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Bro. G. R. Fuller.

Rev. Jno. G. Lowry was given the floor, to speak in behalf of the Institute Board.—\$25.00 was pledged for that work.

Standing Committees appointed as follows:

Temperance:—B. M. Phifer, J. P. Park, J. T. Hays.

Sunday Schools:—S. E. Hodge, E. J. Daffin, John Patrich.

State Missions:—J. T. Bealle, Isaac Martin, M. M. Watkins.

Home Missions:—L. O. Dawson, J. H. Ryland, J. Thrower.

Foreign Missions:—J. W. Dossett, W. H. Logan, G. R. Fuller.

Education:—Fleetwood Rice, F. M. Purifoy, J. S. Yerby.

Periodicals:—Joseph Tibbs, D. J. Ward, A. G. Miller.

Orphan's Home:—B. H. Williams, W. F. Goodson, A. B. Clements.

Aged and Infirm Ministers:—George W. Sanders, William House, L. W. Johnson.

Reports on State, Home, & Foreign Missions read.—Spoken to by L. O. Dawson, J. W. Brown, W. O. Perry, J. W. Dossett, H. R. Schramm, John G. Lowry.

Motion carried, that the reading of the Letters from the Churches, be not dispensed with again.

Adjourned to 9:00, a. m., to-morrow. Prayer by J. T. Bealle.

THIRD DAY.—(Friday Morning.)

Met pursuant to adjournment. Devotional Exercises by J. D. Miller.

The Moderator, at the request of the Chairman of Executive Committee, reported nothing done during the year on account of lack of funds.

Resumed discussion of Reports on Missions. H. R. Schramm and S. E. Hodge spoke to the Reports, which were adopted as follows:

STATE MISSIONS.—Under this subdivision of the Missionary cause, we state, with pardonable pride, that the State Board is at last free from debt. Our people are rapidly awakening from their erstwhile indifferent and lethargic sleep along this all-important line. Would to God that all our respective Missionary Boards could exclaim and proclaim in one Grand Chorus: "Free from debt."

With pleasure, we announce to this Association, that our esteemed Brother, W. B. Compton, has been re-elected Secretary of the State Board Missions. Let us all lend this worthy, true, and tried Brother, our unstinted support and constant prayers. We would further add, that an "Institute Board," has recently been organized for this State. While it is still in its infancy, said branch of Missions is effecting noble and glorious work in the destitute Churches. We recommend the "Institute to your most careful and prayerful consideration. All of which is most respectfully submitted,

JAS. C. BROWN, Ch'n.

HOME MISSIONS.—Taking into consideration the fact, that the Baptists of Alabama are out of debt, (as a denomination); the war with Spain at an end; that we have been blessed with reasonable prosperity over a large portion of our State, and with a double portion in the remaining part, (the mining district), it behooves us to take courage, and push forward in the Master's Cause. The eradication of the Baptist debt, removed the largest mountain, the greatest burden, that the denomination had ever come in contact with. And this Association, at this Session, should return thanks unto God for giving us such men, as championed the cause of removing this great obstacle from our pathway of christian progress. Now as the burden, as some of us called it, is removed, can't we go to work with renewed interest, and push the cause of "Home Missions?"—With the ending of the "war with Spain," comes more work for the christians, "the Baptist especially." "CUBA FREE," God's people must of necessity, take possession. We know under what difficulties our Missionaries have labored, when this same "Cuba" was in the clutches of the Pope. Now that the "Stars and Stripes" float peacefully over this Country, guaranteeing to our denomination safety for their Missionaries, it does seem to me, Brethren, that we should return thanks unto Him from whom comes the power for

this transformation. We should put on the whole Armor of God, and inscribe on our Banners "God has done great things for us," whereof we are glad. We pledge ourselves to do our duty in the future. "The fields are white unto harvest, but the laborers are few." Who will go? Who will help sustain them that do go? and who will give, to help provide for those that have already gone? The Cuban field, at the present, seems to be the most important, and demands our immediate attention and assistance. Can we afford to let the golden opportunity pass by? Other denominations are taking advantage of what God has given them in this field. Shall we, as Baptist, let our cause go lagging, for want of means to carry on the work? In making a strong appeal for "Cuba," we must not overlook the work to be done in the mountain districts, the frontier and the negro. Take the mountain district. As we all know, christianity is at a discount; as a rule the Churches isolated, few in number and far apart; seldom have preaching, and Sunday Schools are few with small attendance. It is here in this district, that the disciples of mormonism are doing their most deadly work. Let us not be afraid, Brethren, to talk out on this question. Instruct our ministers to warn their flocks of the danger of letting these wolves into their pastures. We must needs keep Missionaries and Evangelists continually upon this field; preach when opportunity affords itself, visit from house to house, always keeping the crucified Christ before them, selling, or giving away tracts, &c. We must also be mindful of the work that is to be done within the frontier department. It is comparatively as a new country, and needs the word of God proclaimed in their midst. To do this, it is necessary to have Missionaries on the field. The Brethren in our large cities have a great work on their hands—"the foreign element." We should not forget them in this work.

The Negro problem we also have upon our hands. To make good citizens out of them, they must first be christianized. The question is, must their white brethren help bear the burden of doing so?

We have placed before you a few of the most important needs for the "Home Mission Cause," and will say, that all our aims and desires can be accomplished, giving God the credit of success, and doing our duty in going, sending, and praying for the cause in the name of Christ.

Respectfully submitted,

J. R. MOSELY, Chairman.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—From the last reports to the Southern Baptist Convention, the following facts are obtained: In Foreign fields, the Southern Baptists are sending the Gospel to China, Africa, Japan, Italy, Mexico, and Brazil. In these countries we have

100 Churches;	140 Out stations;	82 Missionaries;
128 Native helpers;	43 Day Schools;	1165 Pupils.

For the year 1898, there were:—

845 Baptisms;	5347 Members;	2446 S. S. Scholars.
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The members of these Foreign Churches contributed for Gospel support, in 1898, the sum of \$7110.20, or a per capita of \$1.33.

The Baptists of the State of Alabama, gave to Foreign Missions, last year, \$5818.89.

In all of the above figures, there is a gratifying increase in everything, except the contributions from Alabama, where there is a slight decrease.

Our Board is now practically out of debt, but there is a great need of funds to keep up the work already begun. We should do our part, not only in sustaining these Churches, but aid in carrying the Gospel to fields yet unexplored.

Your Committee would recommend that our Churches endeavor to increase their contributions for this work.—That Pastors and Deacons strive, in every way possible, to keep their people informed and interested in the cause. Superintendents and Teachers of the Sunday School, should train their pupils in giving for Missionary enterprises. We should all bear in mind the firm, but loving command, to preach the Gospel to every creature. This is one of the foundation principles of a Missionary Baptist Church.

Respectfully Submitted, T. W. PALMER, Ch'n.

The subject of Education, was discussed by J. H. Curry, S. E. Hodge, and J. W. Dossett.

On motion of L. O. Dawson, the Report on Education was amended, by insertion of "Howard College, Judson Institute, and Alabama Central Female College," after Theological Seminary, and adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION:—Your Committee is gratified to report that our Theological Seminary, at Louisville, continues to advance in influence and usefulness. Dr. Whitsitt, the faithful and learned President, who served the Seminary so long and so ably, has resigned, and Dr. E. Y. Mullens has been elected to succeed him. We have been rejoiced to see with what practical unanimity of good feeling the election of Dr. Mullins has been received by our people; and we predict that, under his wise and Godly leadership, the Seminary will continue its hitherto phenomenal growth.

The various Church Schools, throughout the State, many Private Schools, the Public Schools, the Normal, Industrial and Mechanical Schools and Colleges, and the State University, are all being liberally patronized in the pursuit of secular knowledge, and we believe our people are rapidly becoming more intelligent.

While it is the chief duty of our Churches to advance the cause of missions, and while our missionary efforts should be in no wise diminished, but rather intensified—yet, it is undoubtedly our duty to look after the proper teaching and theological training of our Ministers, and for that reason we should make liberal contributions to ministerial education, and give our great Theological Seminary, our Howard College, Judson Institute, and Alabama Central Female College, our warmest sympathy and most cordial support.

Respectfully Submitted,

ROBISON BROWN, Ch'n.

Report on Orphan's Home, read and adopted, as follows:—

REPORT ON ORPHAN'S HOME:—The Orphan's Home is a Christian Institution, and all denominations of Christians are engaged in this noble work. The Baptists of Alabama have the Orphanage at Evergreen, situated on Main Street, near the State Agricultural School, where the children can attend School without charge.

The Home has been in operation a little over six years, and has received 49 boys, and 69 girls. Out of it have gone 28 boys and 27 girls, leaving 63. Nine have gone there from Tuscaloosa County

Of these, two have died ; one has gone out by adoption, and two have been regularly discharged. The Home has a farm of 80 acres, on which the large boys do some good work. The girls do various kinds of house work.

Mrs. C. W. Ausley, who has been Matron from the beginning of the Institution, resigned that place at the first of the year, and Mrs. Jennie Hardy, of Greensboro, was chosen instead.

It is gratifying to note the continued improvement in the domestic life of the children. The Matron has fitted up one of the rooms for a Chapel, where the children are gathered every Sunday morning, and taught the Word of God, making melody in their hearts, singing praises to the Lord.

The children have lately been put in uniform, which greatly improves their appearance, and in no more expensive, than former clothing. It takes about ten dollars per day, besides what they get in goods, to supply the family. They have no income besides what they get from their friends. "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Respectfully Submitted,

M. B. SMITH.

Report on Aged and Infirm Ministers amended, and adopted, as follows:—

REPORT ON AGED AND INFIRM MINISTERS:—We, your Committee, report that Bro. N. H. Williams, of Vance, needs and deserves the assistance of this Association. We recommend that the Association, and the Churches, contribute to his necessities.

Respectfully Submitted,

R. HOGAN, J. C. ARNOLD, M. B. SCOTT.

The following Resolution, offered by L. O. Dawson, was passed:—

RESOLVED, That as this Association has no right to change the direction of funds, sent to it by the Churches, it can not adopt the suggestion of Bro. J. C. Arnold, whereby we are advised to pay to indigent Ministers, 10 per cent. of all monies received.

Report on Finance:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE:—Your Committee on Finance, report that we have received the following amounts, from the Churches, and turned the same over to Bro. John T. Bealle, Treasurer:—

For State Missions, \$16.58; Home Missions, \$31.59; Foreign Missions, \$27.58; Association, \$18.25; Minutes, \$27.60; Ministerial Education, \$4.42; Orphan's, \$32.87; Institute, \$2.00;—Total, \$160 79. The Collection for the Orphan's Home, contained personal pledges for \$7.50, which pledges we have turned over to the Treasurer.

Fraternally Submitted,

FRANCIS M. PURIFOY,

B. M. PHIFER,

B. H. WILLIAMS.

Committee on Finance.

The following Report on Nominations, was adopted:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON NOMINATIONS:—The Committee on Nominations, respectfully submit the following report:—

The next Session of this Association will be held with Siloam

Church, beginning on Wednesday, after the 1st Sunday in Oct. 1900.

To preach the Introductory Sermon:—J. W. Dossett; alternate, J. T. Bealle.

To preach Missionary Sermon:—L. O. Dawson; alternate, S. E. Hodge.

Executive Committee:—C. E. Rice, H. F. Hill, J. Hardin, F. S. Moody, S. M. Black, B. M. Phifer, D. A. Brown.

Delegate to Southern Baptist Convention:—L. O. Dawson; alternate, C. E. Rice.

Delegates to Baptist State Convention:—J. W. Dossett, J. H. Curry, L. O. Dawson, S. E. Hodge, Robison Brown, J. D. Miller.

B. C. SUMNER, Ch'n.

Report on Documents, adopted as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS:—Your Committee respectfully submit the following report:—We find that most of our Churches are in fairly good condition. We have one new Church. Only six Churches without Sunday Schools; one has a union Sunday School, and one maintains two Schools.

While some of the Churches report prayer-meetings, they are by no means as general as they should be. Several of our Churches report gracious revivals, and one Church reports an addition of 53 members taken in at its regular services, without holding any protracted meeting.

It is sad to relate that two of our Churches, while careful to carry out the last part of our Lord's command, pay no attention whatever to the first part of it. They report nothing for Missions. While many others, indicate that they are only playing with the great commission. Their contributions are far below their ability.

Some of our Churches are still without pastors, and one Church reports the death of their Bishop.

There is a general desire shown for advance movement, and we feel encouraged to look for greater things in the future.

J. S. QUARLES, S. E. HODGE, W. R. COPELAND.

Committee on Documents.

Adjourned for dinner.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON.

Met at 2 o'clock. Prayer by B. M. Phifer.

Report on Sunday Schools read by D. A. Brown, spoken to by L. O. Dawson, W. W. Watson, J. D. Miller, Charles Greene, J. H. Foster, J. H. Curry, and adopted, as follows:—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS:—We believe that there is a gradual increase in percentage of the total number of Churches in our Association, in the Sunday School work; and we refer to the progress of the S. S. work, in Alabama, with much spiritual pride—that our fair State stands well up to the most of its Southern States, in this grand and noble work.

There is probably but three of these States which report a larger number enrolled in the Sunday Schools. May we give God the praise for this training of the young in the way that they should go.

Let's consider the educational advantages which can be acquired, by a child from the age of 7 to 21 years, and we find that a child

would have 50 lessons a year for 14 years, or 700 lessons in 14 years, which is equal to three or more years of actual schooling. This, we think, is equal to the practical education of the average man or woman of our county.

While we commend the acquiring of a practical education, we feel, far more, the necessity of a Bible education. We therefore, commend you, Brethren, in giving your children a practical education, and also entreat you to see, that your children are taught the way of eternal life, through the agency of the Church, in the Sunday School work.

Respectfully Submitted,

D. A. BROWNE,
W. W. WATSON } Committee.
C. E. RICE.

Motion carried, that the Clerk prepare a suitable Memorial, on the death of Bro. W. B. Carter, and insert in the Minutes.

Rev. W. B. CARTER.

Bro. Carter labored in our Association for only a short while, but endeared himself to us greatly, in that short time. He was the esteemed and beloved pastor of the Big Sandy Church, where his labors were signally blest, many being added to the Church, and the Church greatly strengthened under his pastorate. The Church at Vance's, was likewise blest under his wise and consecrated leadership, receiving many new members and getting strength within.

The Church at Cottondale had a great revival, through his labors, just before his death, and they greatly mourn his loss.

Our Association misses him, for he was a constant, zealous worker, whose labors were signally blessed of the Lord. The Churches, named above, specially feel his loss, because he had so effectively labored among them, and they had learned to love him as a flock loves a faithful Shepherd.

In the very midst of his useful labors, he was taken away. We know, however, that the Father, in Heaven, makes no mistake, and that it is all for the best. He has gone to his reward. Let us emulate him, by being zealous in good works.

The Report on Periodicals, made in last Minute, was adopted again, after discussion by H. R. Schramme and J. H. Curry:

PERIODICALS.—There is no better instrument, in shaping the destiny of our young people, than good literature. We most heartily commend the careful reading of the Bible, as it is the best of all.—It is the basis of all moral and social, as well as religious law. It is for the uplifting of the world. We advise all to read the "Alabama Baptist." It is a Baptist weekly, and should be read by all. We recommend the "Foreign Mission Journal," and our "Home Field." They are full of Missionary news and information. We also recommend for use in our Sunday Schools, the Baptist Sunday School Board literature.

Under Miscellaneous Business, the following Resolution was adopted;—

RESOLVED, That a Committee of five be appointed, to arrange for at least a half dozen all-day Mass Meetings, to be held in different parts of Tuscaloosa County, at which, shall be set forth, the terrible history made by the Saloons, in our Country at large, and in our County, in particular.

Also, to show, how completely they have controlled our people for many years. Also, to devise ways and means, to rid ourselves of this unspeakable curse.

In accordance with the above Resolution, the Moderator appointed the following Committee:—L. O. Dawson, C. E. Rice, J. S. Yerby, R. S. Cox, and B. M. Phifer.

The following Resolution, offered by J. M. Purifoy, was adopted :—

RESOLVED, That this Association, in order to co-operate with the State Convention and our Sister Associations in this State, during the year 1900, in conducting a "Baptist Campaign of Education," do request the Executive Committee to arrange such program, as in their wisdom may be best, in the prosecution of the same.

The following Resolution of thanks, was unanimously carried by rising vote :—

RESOLVED, That this Association hereby offers expression of its most hearty thanks, for the generous and bounteous hospitality of the Hopewell Church, and community, which we have so much enjoyed during this Session.

Adjourned to meet with Siloam Church, 10 o'clock, a. m., on Wednesday, after first Sunday in October, 1900.

Sung "There's a land that is fairer than day," and gave parting hand.

J. T. BEALLE, Stated Clerk.

J. H. CURRY, Moderator.

ORDAINED MINISTERS :

J. H. M. Anders,.....	Coker
J. T. Bealle.....	Northport
R. S. Cox.....	Northport
J. H. Curry	Northport
L. O. Dawson.....	Tuscaloosa
J. H. Foster.....	Tuscaloosa
J. R. Holman	Brookwood
S. E. Hodge	Humphrey
J. W. Loveless	Griffin
W. J. Miller.....	Vance
J. D. Mills	Blocton
J. F. Price.....	Brookwood
M. B. Smith.....	Tuscaloosa
Joseph Tibbs.....	Vance
T. C. Whatley.....	Tuscaloosa

DISTRICT MEETINGS.

Report of First District :—The meeting of the First District, was held with the First Baptist Church, at Blocton, on Friday, before 4th Sunday in July, 1899. Introductory Sermon, by Jno. T. Bealle. Delegates present :—Big Hurricane—W. J. Williams ; Mt. Zion—Dock Matthews, R. E. St. John ; Mt. Moriah—W. F. Goodson, J. A. Blake, J. Black, Jas. Riley, B. W. Clifton, Barton Hayes ; Blocton—J. B. Davis ; Gilgal—B. D. Skelton ; Shultz Creek—A. C. Cox ; Vance—Joseph Tibbs, J. S. Quarles, R. Brown, F. A. H. Keopple.

The next meeting will be held with Mt. Zion Church, beginning on Friday, before the 4th Sunday in July, 1900. Introductory Sermon by L. O. Dawson ; alternate, J. Tibbs.

Subjects for Discussion—First : “What stand should our Churches take concerning the Dispensary Question ?” Opened by S. M. Black. Second : “How may our Churches be made more attractive and pleasant to young people ?”—J. T. Hayes. Third : “The True Relation of Pastor and Church to the Sunday School ?”—J. B. Davis. Fourth ; “Should the call of a Church be accepted, which has not paid its retiring Pastor ?”—J. S. Quarles. Fifth : “What should our Churches do with members, whose greatest evidence of membership, is that their names are enrolled on the Church Book ?”—General discussion.

J. S. QUARLES, Moderator.
J. T. HAYES, Clerk.

Report of Second District :—The Second District Meeting was held with the Windham Springs Church, on Friday and Saturday, before the 3rd Sunday in Aug. 1899. Next meeting will be held with Flatwoods Church, on Friday, before the 3rd Sunday in August, 1900. Introductory Sermon, by J. H. Curry ; alternate, S. E. Hodge. Subjects—First : “A model Church : Its doctrines and its work”—Rev. J. H. M. Anders. Second : “The greatest thing in the world !”—Fleetwood Rice. Third : “Why have not the Churches in our District, more power with men ?”—R. E. Hobson. Fourth : “Which is the more important thing to do : persuade men to be Christians, or train those who have become Christians ?”—E. Coleman.

S. E. HODGE, Moderator.
R. E. HOBSON, Clerk.

CONSTITUTION.

1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by their different churches in our union, who, producing their credentials, shall be entitled to seats.

2. The members thus chosen and conveyed, shall be known by the name of "The Tuscaloosa Baptist Association," which shall have the privilege to enact and carry out plans for Missionary purposes in all their bearings, but so that the churches and individual members are left free; and the matter of giving or withholding, shall not be a bar to membership.

3. This Association shall usurp no authority over the churches in our Union, or infringe upon any of their internal rights; but shall merely be considered an advisory council, in all matters relative to their internal concerns; nevertheless, it becomes necessary, in some cases, to have a uniform rule of procedure, viz: If one church commit an offence against another, it shall be the duty of the offended to labor with the offender for satisfaction; if she fail of success, she shall call the aid of two or more churches in our union to assist in laboring for satisfaction, and if final satisfaction, in the opinion of the helps thus called, be not obtained, the aggrieved may bring the case before the Association, which shall be taken up and decided upon according to its merits. If a serious difference should arise in an individual church, which, upon due labor cannot be reconciled, she shall call the aid of two or more sister churches to assist in the work; and if a reconciliation be not effected, the helps so called, or the church, may bring the case before the Association, to be acted on according to its merits; but the Association will take cognizance of no case of the above kind, unless a due course of procedure shall have been previously pursued, according to the economy of the church discipline, found in the 18th chapter of the Gospel of St. Matthew, and other parts of the Scriptures, which define the nature of offences, and the manner of bringing offenders to trial.

4. The churches of our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association, written communications, specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated, and deceased, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

5. Every church belonging to this Association shall be entitled to representation in the following manner: Each church is entitled, and is requested to send, four delegates, and any church with a membership exceeding 75, for every additional 25 members, shall be entitled to one additional delegate. Any church failing to represent herself as prescribed in the Constitution, shall state reason at the next annual session. Any delegate retiring from the Association without leave, before adjournment, his name shall be stricken from the minutes of the session.

6. New churches may be admitted to our union by delegates bearing petitionary letters. If, upon due examination, they be found orderly and orthodox, the Moderator and brethren shall manifest their admission by giving the delegates the right hand in token of christian fellowship.

7. The Association, when convened, shall be governed by a regular and proper decorum, which she is authorized to form and amend according to her own views.

8. At every session of the Association, a Moderator shall be appointed by, and from the delegates present, whose duty it shall be to see that the rules are strictly observed, and to take the voice of the Association on all subjects legally introduced. A Stated Clerk shall be appointed, who shall continue in office until the Association shall elect his successor, and whose duty it shall be to take proper and correct minutes of every session of this body, which he is to present to the view of the Association annually. An assistant Clerk may be elected each year, if necessary.

9. The Association shall have power to exclude from the union any church that may violate the constitution, or depart from the orthodox principles of the constitution.

10. The Association shall furnish the Minutes of every session to the churches making contributions for that purpose.

11. Every query sent by a particular church, must be included in her letter, certifying that she endeavored to reconcile it, but failed. In such a case, the Association shall take it under consideration, and the voice of the majority shall be considered an advisory answer, which shall be entered on the minutes.

12. Queries which immediately concern the general union of the churches, sent by a particular church, or introduced by a proper motion, shall be taken up and decided as soon as practicable.

13. Any church in our union having a preacher whom she deems worthy of ordination, shall call a presbytery of Ministers from sister churches, to officiate in the work; and all presbyteries in the ordaining of Ministers or Deacons, or in the constituting of churches, shall be governed by the Abstract of Faith, adopted by the Association.

14. The Association shall have a fund, supplied by the voluntary contributions from the churches, by their delegates, and paid over to the committee on finance. This committee shall be appointed annually, whose duty it shall be to receive in charge, the Association fund, and dispose of the same agreeably to order, and make at every session, a fair and circumstantial report of their proceedings.

15. This Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

16. The Minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk, before the session rises.

17. The Association shall, in all cases, (except to amend the Constitution) be governed by a majority of the members present.

18. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association, when two-third's of its members are present.

Articles of Faith.

ARTICLE 1 We believe in only one true and living God, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe that the Scriptures, comprising the Old and the New Testament, are the word of God, the only rule of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of Election, and that God chose his people in Christ, before the foundation of the world.

4. We believe in the doctrine of original sin.

5. We believe in man's incapability, by his own free will and abil-

ity, to recover himself from the fallen state in which he is by nature

6. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God by the imputed righteousness of Christ only.

7. We believe that God's elect shall be called, regenerated and sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

8. We believe that the Saints shall be preserved in Grace, and never fall finally away.

9. We believe that Baptism and the Lord's Supper are Ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only subjects of Baptism, and that by immersion is the Apostolic mode.

10. We believe in the resurrection of the dead, and in the General Judgment, and that the felicity of the righteous and punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

11. We believe that no minister has any right to administer the ordinances of the Gospel, but one who is regularly baptized, called, and comes under the imposition of the hands of a Presbytery.

12. We believe that none but regularly baptized members have a right to commune at the Lord's Table.

Rules of Decorum.

ART. 1. The Association shall be opened and closed with prayer

2. The Moderator shall be considered a judge of order, and shall have a discretionary right to call to order at any time.

3. A member not satisfied with his decision, may appeal to the Association on the same day, but at no other time.

4. But one member shall speak at a time, who shall rise to his feet, and on obtaining permission, proceed.

5. The Moderator, when addressed by a member for permission to speak, shall signify the same by naming the person, or otherwise.

6. No member shall be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection. Every motion made and seconded, shall come under the consideration of the Association, unless withdrawn by him who made it.

7. Each case taken up by the Association, shall be decided on or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

8. When a question is taken up, after allowing time for the debates, the Moderator shall take the voice of the Association on his subject, in such mode as he may determine.

9. The Moderator shall announce the decision he body.

10. Any member wishing to retire, must see to his own departure.

11. No member shall speak more than twice on the same proposition, unless by permission of the Association, nor more than once until every one wishing to speak shall have spoken.

12. The appellation of "Brother," shall be used in the Association by members in their address to one another.

13. The names of members shall be called as often as the Association may direct.


14. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

15. The Moderator shall be entitled to the same privilege of speaking as any other person, provided he call some one to his seat during the time. He shall not vote on any question unless the Association be equally divided.

16. Any one violating these rules, shall be reprov'd by the Moderator, at his discretion, but only on the day the breach shall have been made.

Order of Exercises:

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1. Devotional Exercises.
 2. Presentation of Letters from the Churches, and Election of Officers.
 3. Receive Correspondence.
 4. Return Correspondence.
 5. Open the door for the reception of New Members.
 6. Appoint Special Committees, viz:—1. On Preaching; 2. On Documents; 3. On Nominations; 4. On Finance.
 7. Reports of Standing Committees, viz:—1. On Temperance; 2. Sunday Schools; 3. State, Home, and Foreign Missions; 4. Education; 5. Aged and Infirm Ministers; 6. Periodicals; 7. Executive Committee;
 8. Orphan's Home.
 9. Miscellaneous Business.
 10. Appointment of Standing Committees.
 11. Give parting hand,
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 For Sunday School Literature, write the "Baptist Sunday School Board," Nashville, Tenn.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCH	CO.	PASTOR	CLERK	CLERKS Post Office.	Membership Last Report	Baptism	Letter	Restoration	Letter	Exclusion	Exsures	Deaths	Present Membership	22 Officers & Teachers	2. S. Pupils	S. S. Superintendent's Name and Post Office.
Bethany	Tusca	S E Hodge	J H Price	Humphrey	92	1	1	1	2			3	88	5	30	S E Hughes, Humphry
Bethel	Tusca	W G Hubbard	N N Brown	Coaling	54	4	1	1	5		1	2	51	5	50	S M Black, Coaling
Bibbville	Bibb				40								40			
Big Creek	Tusca	J D Ray	H C Koster	Coker	76				4			1	67	4	36	E Coleman, Northport
Big Hurricane	Tusca	J N Walker	J E Kizziah	Brookwood	81	1	16	16	1	6		1	106	8	66	W W Lawrence, Mildale
Big Sandy	Tusca	H R Schramm	B M Phifer	Phifer	176	1			3			1	173	8	80	B M Phifer, Phifer
Blocton 1st	Bibb	J W Dossett	J B Davis	Blocton	183	4	4		7	4	55	2	64	8	40	W W Perry, Blocton
Blocton 2nd	Bibb	S Smitherman	W H Broadhead	Blocton	51	11	3	1	1	3	10		52			
Brookwood	Tusca				73								40			
Cairill's Crk	Tusca	Felix Mills	S L Hassell	Northport	27								29		68	D W Campbell, Cottndle
Cottondale	Tusca	G W Lovell	J H Ryland	Cottondale	35	25	15	2	6		3	2	66	9	80	Jas. Albright, Duncanv'le
Duncanville	Tusca	J D Ray	A G Miller	Duncanv'le									13	4	40	H W Sloan, Northport
Flatwoods	Tusca	Jno. T Bealle	J H Anders	Northport	38								38	5	42	A W Thompson, Tuska
Gilgal	Tusca	A W Logan	A W Thompson	Tuscaloosa	134	2	2		18	1			117	6	47	G W Rowe, Tuska
Howeell	Tusca	Jno. T Bealle	D A Browne	Tuscaloosa	44								46	4		
Little Sandy	Tusca	Jno. T Bealle	J H Ryan	Tuscaloosa	39				2		4	1	32		32	J A Blake, Blocton
Mt. Meriah	Bibb		John Goodson	Vance	78	4	1	1	15		12	1	56	7		
Mt. Olive	Tusca	J H M Anders	W N Bryant	Northport	92	10			2	3			98		25	Henry Snyder, Northp't
Mt. Paran	Tusca	S E Hodge	S H Dockery	Northport	29	1	2	2			1		31	4		
Mt. Pleasant	Tusca	R S Cox	M Copeland	Cottondale	39	5	2		3				45		50	R E St. John, Pearl
Mt. Zion	Tusca	A W Logan	J W Willingham	Cottondale	105	3	8					2	114	5	118	C E Rice, Northport
Northport	Tusca	J H Curry	D L Brown	Cottondale	191	1	5		12			1	184	9		
Peasey Grove	Tusca	J Kizziah	Wm. Franklin	Northport	25	27	13		2				63			
Pleasant Hill	Tusca			Northport	13								13		35	J T Hayes, Pearl
Sardis	Tusca	J W Loveless	W W Williams	Pearl	48			3		2			49	2		
Shuliz Creek	Tusca	J W Freeman	W F Lowry	River Bend	66	2							68		25	
Siloam	Bibb	W E Findley	J A Waggoner	Centerville	44	2			1	1	10		34	5	405	T W Palmer, University
Tuscaloosa	Tusca	L O Dawson	Robison Brown	Tuscaloosa	421	21	32		16			8	450	30		
Vance	Tusca	Jam's Hogan	R M Vance	Vance	62				4	4		1	53		25	T E Christian, Oregonia
Wind. Spr'gs	Tusca	J B Ferguson	J M Loller	Oregonia	46	1				1			46	5	56	
Woodstock	Bibb	M T Branham	J U Ray	Woodstock	42	4			2	1			42	6		
					2445	113	119	27	106	26	100	27	2372	139	1350	

FINANCIAL TABLE.

CHURCHES	State Missions	Home Missions	Foreign Missions	Associa- tional	Minutes	Ministerial Education	Orphan's Home	Pastor's Salary	Repairs, Fuel, the Poor, etc.	Sunday Schools	Total	Value of Church Property
Bethany	2 00	1 85	2 00	50	1 00		3 63	25 00	1 00	4 00	32 35	500 00
Bethel		2 00		25	1 00			50 00		2 00	63 88	300 00
Bibbville												
Big Creek	2 00	2 00		50	1 00		1 00			2 50	9 00	250 00
Big Hurricane				50	1 25		80			10 00	2 55	200 00
Big Sandy	7 83	4 66		50	1 50		11 90	150 00			186 39	1000 00
Blocton 1st			5 00	1 00	1 50		5 00	335 00	45 00	104 00	496 50	2400 00
Blocton 2nd	25		5 25	25	50		35				1 60	
Brookwood												
Carroll's Crk		3 00	50	35	40		1 60	44 93	1 30	55	7 70	100 00
Cottondale	2 99	2 99	2 99	50	95		5 00				60 35	1000 00
Duncanville												
Flatwoods	2 02	4 17	4 27	1 55	50	3 67	1 50	30 00	45 62		46 18	500 00
Gilgal	3 00	3 01	3 00	1 50	1 50	1 50	4 06	140 00			200 68	1200 00
Hopewell	2 77	3 85	72	50	75	2 50		50 00			14 31	800 00
Little Sandy	4 95	3 82	4 52	50	50	1 50		50 00	69 00		134 82	800 00
Mt. Meriah		3 83	3 82	75	1 50		1 40				9 90	400 00
Mt. Olive	45	40	2 00	25	1 50		1 00	26 00	12 50	2 00	44 25	300 00
Mt. Paran	14 50			50	1 00	40					15 50	300 00
Mt. Pleasant	2 55			35	1 25	1 65	2 50	79 00			87 30	300 00
Mt. Zion	20 12	8 00	20 00	2 00	2 00	10 00	8 50	325 00			790 62	1400 00
Northport	1 30			50	1 00				885 00	10 00	2 80	100 00
Piney Grove												
Pleasant Hill												
Sardis	81	82	3 19	50	75		2 05	50 00	75	2 00	58 82	400 00
Shuliz Creek				50	1 00			14 78	14 90		33 23	500 00
Siloam		1 00		50	1 00			12 00	76	1 50	16 76	500 00
Tuscaloosa	400 00	40 00	45 65	2 50	2 50	154 50	40 25	425 00	854 00	137 61	3 102 01	20 000 00
Vance	4 03		2 44	50	50		2 75	50 00	67 30		127 52	400 00
Wind, Spr'gs	3 50			50	1 00						5 00	500 00
Woodstock	4 77	1 00	1 00	50	75		2 00	65 00		1600	91 02	2000 00
	\$479 84	\$85 58	\$101 35	\$18 75	\$28 60	\$175 72	\$95 29	\$2 881.71	\$1 497 12	\$2 16	\$5 647 19	\$366 00 00

